

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 through 132. Please add the following claims 133 through 175. Accordingly, claims 133 through 175 are pending upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment. The purpose of this amendment is to economize on USPTO fees.

Claims 1-132 (cancelled)

133. (new) A multimer assembly of DNA sequences comprising:
at least one amplification cassette, wherein said at least one amplification cassette comprises at least one monomer sequence whose polymerization is desired, further wherein said at least one amplification cassette comprises a 5' restriction pair member at its 5' terminus and a 3' restriction pair member at its 3' terminus; and at least one of the following:
at least one 3'-terminal cassette, wherein said 3'-terminal cassette comprises at least one 3' specific sequence and a 5' restriction pair member site that can be fused to a 3' restriction pair member site of at least one of said at least one amplification cassette; or
at least one 5'-terminal cassette, wherein said 5'-terminal cassette comprises at least one 5' specific sequence and a 3' restriction pair member site that can be fused to a 5' restriction pair member site of at least one of said at least one amplification cassette.
134. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said at least one amplification cassette is at least two amplification cassettes.
135. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 134, wherein said at least two amplification cassettes are fused at restriction pair member partners.
136. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said multimer assembly comprises said at least one 5'-terminal cassette.

137. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said multimer assembly comprises at least one 3'-terminal cassette.
138. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 137, wherein said multimer assembly further comprises at least one 5'-terminal cassette.
139. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said 5' restriction pair member site and said 3' restriction pair member site comprise:
- ligation-compatible non-regenerable overhang restriction sites;
 - ligation-compatible non-regenerable blunt end restriction sites; or
 - incompatible overhang restriction sites that are converted to ligation-compatible non-regenerable blunt end restriction sites through the use of polymerases or nucleases.
140. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 136, wherein said 5'-terminal cassette further comprises at least a portion of said monomer sequence.
141. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 137, wherein said 3'-terminal cassette further comprises at least a portion of said monomer sequence.
142. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 138, wherein said 3'-terminal cassette and said 5'-terminal cassette each comprise at least a portion of said monomer sequence.
143. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said multimer assembly further comprises at least one linker.
144. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 143, wherein said at least one linker comprises at least one restriction pair member.

145. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said monomer sequence encodes a peptide or protein of interest.
146. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said 3'-restriction pair member encodes a stop codon that is destroyed upon ligation to said 5'-restriction pair member.
147. (new) An amplification cassette comprising a 5' segment of a monomer sequence and a 3' segment of a monomer sequence that together comprise the sequence of a complete monomer, wherein said 5' segment is positioned 3' of said 3' segment, further wherein 5'terminus of said 3' segment is a 5' restriction pair member and the 3' terminus of said 5' segment is a 3' restriction pair member.
148. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said multimer assembly comprises an amplification cassette that comprises a 5' segment of a monomer sequence and a 3' segment of a monomer sequence that together comprise the sequence of a complete monomer, wherein said 5' segment is positioned 3' of said 3' segment, further wherein 5'terminus of said 3' segment is a 5' restriction pair member and the 3' terminus of said 5' segment is a 3' restriction pair member.
149. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 148, wherein said amplification cassette comprises a linker that is positioned between said 5' segment and said 3' segment of said monomer sequence.

150. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein said multimer assembly comprises a first cassette and a second cassette,
- wherein when said first cassette comprises a 5'-terminal cassette, said second cassette comprises an amplification cassette or a multimer cassette constructed from a 3'-terminal cassette and an amplification cassette;
- and when said first cassette comprises a 3'-terminal cassette, said second cassette comprises an amplification cassette or a multimer cassette constructed from a 5'-terminal cassette and an amplification cassette.
151. (new) A method of making a multimer cassette from a multimer assembly of claim 150, comprising:
- a) digesting said first cassette at said 5'-restriction pair member or said 3'-restriction pair member and isolating a first fragment containing the insert sequence from said first cassette;
 - b) digesting said second cassette at said 5' restriction pair member site and said 3' restriction pair member site and isolating a second fragment containing the insert sequence from said second cassette;
 - c) ligating said first fragment with said second fragment to generate multimer cassette candidates; and
 - d) testing said multimer cassette candidates for correct ligation orientation, wherein a multimer cassette candidate with correct ligation orientation comprises a multimer cassette.
152. (new) A multimer cassette made by the method of claim 151.
153. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 133, wherein at least one of said cassettes comprises one or more flanking restriction sites.
154. (new) The multimer assembly of claim 138, wherein said 5'-terminal cassette and said 3'-terminal cassette each contain the same insertion restriction site.

155. (new) A method of making a multimer cassette from two cassettes from a multimer assembly of claim 150, wherein each of said two cassettes comprises one or more flanking restriction sites, comprising:
- a) providing a first cassette with a first flanking restriction site at one end, either 5' or 3', of its insert sequence;
 - b) providing a second cassette with a second flanking restriction site that is, or is made, ligation compatible with said first flanking restriction site and is on the same side, either 5' or 3', of its insert sequence as the first flanking restriction site is relative to said first cassette's insert sequence;
 - c) digesting said first cassette at its restriction pair member and said first flanking site and isolating the first fragment containing the insert sequence;
 - d) digesting said second cassette at its restriction pair member partner to said first cassette's restriction pair member and at said second flanking site and isolating the second fragment containing the insert sequence; and
 - e) ligating said first fragment with said second fragment to generate a multimer cassette.
156. (new) A multimer cassette made by the method of claim 155.

157. (new) A method of making an insertion cassette from the multimer assembly of claim 154 comprising:

- a) providing said 5'-terminal cassette having a first flanking restriction site, distinct from said insertion restriction site, that is outside of the sequence including the insert sequence and insertion restriction site of said 5'-terminal cassette;
- b) providing a 3'-terminal cassette having a second flanking restriction site, distinct from said insertion restriction site, that is outside of the sequence including the insert sequence and insertion restriction site of said 3'-terminal cassette and is, or is made, ligation compatible with said first flanking site and is on the same side, either 5' or 3', of its insert sequence as the first flanking restriction site is relative to said 5'-terminal cassette's insert sequence;
- c) digesting said 5'-terminal cassette at its insertion restriction site and said first flanking site and isolating the first fragment containing the insert sequence;
- d) digesting said 3'-terminal cassette at its insertion restriction site and said second flanking site and isolating the second fragment containing the insert sequence; and
- e) ligating said first fragment with said second fragment to generate an insertion cassette.

158. (new) An insertion cassette made by the method of claim 157.

159. (new) A method of making a multimer cassette from a multimer assembly that comprises an amplification cassette and the insertion cassette of claim 158, comprising:

- a) digesting said insertion cassette at both its restriction pair member sites and isolating a first fragment containing an insertion cassette insert sequence;
- b) digesting said amplification cassette at both its said restriction pair member sites and isolating a second fragment containing an amplification cassette insert sequence; and
- c) ligating said first fragment with said second fragment to generate multimer cassette candidates;
- d) testing said multimer cassette candidates for correct ligation orientation, wherein said a multimer cassette candidate with correct ligation orientation comprises a multimer cassette.

160. (new) A multimer cassette made by the method of claim 159.

161. (new) A method of making a multimer cassette from a multimer assembly that comprises an amplification cassette and the insertion cassette of claim 158, comprising:
- a) providing said amplification cassette comprising a flanking restriction site that is, or is made, ligation compatible to said insertion restriction site of said insertion cassette;
 - b) digesting said amplification cassette at said flanking restriction site and its restriction pair member on the opposite side, either 5' or 3', of the insert sequence and isolating the first fragment containing the insert sequence;
 - c) digesting said insertion cassette at said insertion restriction site and the restriction pair member partner to said digested amplification cassette's restriction pair member and isolating the second fragment containing the insert sequence;
 - d) ligating said first fragment with said second fragment to generate a multimer cassette precursor; and
 - e) digesting said multimer cassette precursor at both restriction pair members, isolating the fragment containing the insert sequence, and ligating it with itself to generate a multimer cassette.
162. (new) A multimer cassette made by the method of claim 161.
163. (new) A multimer assembly according to claim 133, wherein said monomer sequence is the hGH coding sequence, SEQ ID NO:1.
164. (new) A multimer assembly according to claim 133, comprising at least one linker sequence adjacent to at least one monomer sequence of at least one amplification cassette.
165. (new) A vector comprising a multimer cassette made from a multimer assembly of claim 133.

166. (new) A cell containing a vector according to claim 165.
167. (new) A polymeric protein expressed from a vector of claim 165.
168. (new) A method of making an amplification cassette, comprising:
- a) providing at least two amplification cassettes of claim 147; and
 - b) joining said at least two amplification cassettes by ligating said 3' restriction member of at least one of said at least two amplification cassettes to said 5' restriction member of at least one other of said at least two amplification cassettes to generate a multimer cassette.
169. (new) An amplification cassette comprising at least one linker, wherein said at least one linker comprises at least one restriction pair member member.
170. (new) A method of making an amplification cassette, comprising:
- a) providing at least two amplification cassettes of claim 169; wherein each of said at least two amplification cassettes comprises: a first restriction pair partner on one end of said monomer sequence; and a linker at the other end of said monomer sequence that comprises a second restriction pair partner; and
 - b) joining said at least two amplification cassettes by ligating said first restriction pair partner of at least one of said at least two amplification cassettes to said second restriction pair partner of at least one other of said at least two amplification cassettes to generate a multimer cassette.
171. (new) An amplification cassette comprising 5' and 3' restriction pair member sites that are incompatible overhang restriction sites that are converted to ligation-compatible nonregenerable blunt end restriction sites through the use of polymerases or nucleases.

172. (new) A method of making an amplification cassette, comprising:
- a) providing at least two amplification cassettes of claim 171; and
 - b) joining said at least two amplification cassettes by ligating said 3' restriction member of at least one of said at least two amplification cassettes to said 5' restriction member of at least one other of said at least two amplification cassettes to generate a multimer cassette.
173. (new) A vector comprising a multimer assembly cassette of claim 147.
174. (new) A cell containing a vector according to claim 173.
175. (new) A polymeric protein expressed from the vector of claim 173.